

**Maryland State Board of Victim Services Meeting**  
**Staffed by the Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services**  
**Wednesday, July 6, 2022**  
**10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.**

**Meeting Minutes**

**Participating Members:**

Steve Kelly, Esq., Chair  
Kunle Adeyemo  
Anne Bean  
Lou Gieszl  
Theresa Hiegel  
Molly Knipe  
Steve Levin, Esq.  
Jill Ritter  
Alonzo Robertson, Esq.  
Lisa Spicknall  
Patricia Stevens for Secretary Robert Green  
Jeanne Yeager

**Guests:**

Karen Darby, Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services  
Stephanie Erdice, Maryland Coalition Against Sexual Assault  
Lisae Jordan, Esq., Maryland Coalition Against Sexual Assault  
Karen Foxman, Disability Rights Maryland  
Angeli Rios, Disability Rights Maryland

**Governor's Office of Crime Prevention Youth, and Victim Services Staff:**

Rebecca Allyn, Heather Amador

**I. Introductions and Roll Call**

The meeting was called to order at 10:01 a.m. Ms. Allyn conducted a roll call and guests introduced themselves.

**II. Consent Agenda**

The consent agenda contained the April 2022 Board meeting minutes and updates from the Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services.

*Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services Updates:* Ms. Allyn informed members that the Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services (the Office) is currently accepting grant applications for the Child Sex Trafficking Screening and Services Act Regional Navigator Program and the Violence Intervention and Prevention Program. Applications are due July 29 and July 22, respectively. The Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) and Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) Notice of Funding Availabilities (NOFAs) will be issued later this summer.

In June, the Office held a listening and strategic planning session to update the VAWA Implementation Plan in order to develop new priorities and identify gaps in services. The priorities were posted on the Office's [website](#) for public comments. Feedback on the plan is due to Ms. Allyn by July 29.

Mr. Kelly made a motion to approve the consent agenda; Mr. Robertson seconded the motion. All members were in favor and the consent agenda was approved.

### **III. MVOC Presentation: Disability Rights Maryland**

Ms. Foxman and Ms. Rios provided members with an overview of the services provided by Disability Rights Maryland (DRM) through the Maryland Victims of Crime (MVOC) grant. DRM provides advocacy, support and free legal services to victims of and individuals at risk of abuse, neglect, and sexual abuse in hospitals and residential treatment centers and promote compliance with state policies, procedures, and regulations designed to promote client safety. A new law from 2021 expanded DRM's oversight to private residential treatment centers and hospitals with separate psychiatric units. The MVOC grant helped DRM to expand their services to these newly covered facilities.

### **IV. Updates**

- *2022 Crime Victims' Rights Week*

National Crime Victims' Rights Week was April 24-30, 2022. The [32nd Memorial Services for Crime Victims and Their Families](#) were hosted by the Harford, Prince George's, Washington, and Worcester County State's Attorneys' Offices on Sunday, April 24, 2022. The Office will work to better distribute the funding to the hosts for future services and consider utilizing a RSVP format for the services.

The [2022 Maryland Crime Victims' Rights Conference](#) was held virtually April 27-29. Conference topics included equity in victim services, AirTag stalking, establishing or enhancing law enforcement based victim service, victims' rights, promising practices for victim services and COVID-19 response, legislation, compensation, victim notification, human trafficking, teen dating violence, and work life balance. The conference garnered over 350 attendees.

The post conference survey indicated that over 95% of attendees thought the conference was very good/excellent, the conference was organized, and the content was relevant. Suggested topics for next year include male sexual assault victims in shelter, sex trafficking, mobile intervention programs, mental health, immigrant rights and services, victims/survivors perspective, bereavement, advocacy and court education for children, homicide services, new restitution laws, LGBTQ, secondary trauma, victims of juvenile offenders, SOS address confidentiality program, data on the effect of criminal justice reform initiatives on victim services, and school violence. The Board will take these suggested topics into consideration for the 2023 conference.

- *Victim Response to Mass Violence Subcommittee*

The Board has been assisting the Active Assailant Interdisciplinary Workgroup (AAIWG) with guidance for victim response for mass violence incidents and the Board

reviewed the Emergency People Search and Recovery Guidance drafted by the AAIWG. Members provided detailed recommendations and suggestions to the AAIWG. Ms. Allyn will continue to engage the Board with providing victim centered response guidance to the AAIWG.

- *Victim/Witness Relocation Program*

Board members met in May to review and discuss the Victim/Witness Relocation Program guidelines. Several recommendations were agreed upon and another meeting to continue reviewing the guidelines will be scheduled in August or September.

## **V. Old/New Business**

Members and guests shared information on upcoming training and operational updates.

- Crime Victims' Rights Webinar: Tuesday, July 19 from 10 am – 11 am via Zoom  
Registration Link <https://mcasa.org/events/event/webinar-crime-victims-rights>
- Lunch and Learn: Digital Stalking, Safety Planning, and New Laws: Thursday, July 21 from 12:30 – 1 pm via Zoom  
Registration Link:  
<https://mcasa.org/events/event/lunch-and-learn-digital-stalking-safety-planning-and-new-laws>
- The U.S. Attorney's Office will be hiring in the Baltimore and Greenbelt offices. Check [usajobs.gov](https://usajobs.gov) for job postings.

## **VI. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:25 a.m.

### **NEXT MEETING:**

Wednesday, October 26, 2022

Meeting ID: [meet.google.com/kci-wpew-php](https://meet.google.com/kci-wpew-php)

Phone Number: 1 406-905-1559

PIN: 483 288 840#